



# The Lemonier Express

## November 2003

Join Us At [WWW.CJTFHOA.CENTCOM.MIL](http://WWW.CJTFHOA.CENTCOM.MIL)

## Message From the Commander

Another month ripped off the wall calendar and put in the circular file. My, how sweet the sound of tearing paper can be. The next two months will be much tougher for those of us here...and for those of you there. Nobody wants to be separated from family and friends during Thanksgiving or the holidays. Traditionally, it is the season for laughter, family reunions, and smiles...it can also be the season for loneliness, heartache and depression. It is sometimes challenging to focus on the many, many things we have to be thankful for, but there is much.

- The privilege of service to country...many can only dream of such freedom
- The joy of serving with people I can trust, who share my commitment
- The future opportunity to tell my children and grandchildren that I contributed to stopping a terrorist growth that sought to destroy that which we loved most
- The ability to take my freedom and benefits for granted
- Loved ones at home who are faithful, true, and supportive (even though they yearn for my return)
- Freedom of worship, freedom of speech, freedom of independent thought
- The hope for a better tomorrow
- Future years to hold my wife's hand and to read to my children and grandchildren

I still remember one of my earliest military life changing experiences. It happened 27 years ago, when I returned from my first 30-day summer desert training deployment. I could not tell you what my bride of two years was wearing when I came home or what she served me for dinner that night...but I still vividly remember the ice cold glass of tea she set before me. I still remember how mesmerized I was watching those beads of sweat running down the outside of an ice-cold glass. Sacrifice has a unique way of helping us to appreciate the things we otherwise take for granted.

There is an old quote that says – “The only thing worse than war is the belief that nothing is worth fighting for.” This year I am thankful that you and I both understand that there are things worth fighting for and that we have demonstrated our resolve through our actions. I am thankful that we are here guarding the gates of freedom against terrorism and tyranny, and you are there taking care of family, friends, and loved ones. I am also thankful that you will be standing there when I get off the bus or plane upon my return.

This year many of us we will miss gathering around the table together, carving the turkey or ham, watching football, and being with loved ones. But our absence makes us appreciate you, family, home, and the good old USA more than ever. Thank you for partnering with us, for faithfully waiting for us, for being as committed to this Global War on Terrorism as we are...and we appreciate and miss you all the more because of it. Keep the home fires burning and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Mastin M. Robeson  
Brigadier General, US Marine Corps  
Commander, CJTF-HOA



### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

#### CJTF-HOA Info

- 1(866)360-3775
- 1(910)451-2222

#### American Red Cross

- 1(877)272-7337

#### TriCare Appointment/Advice

- 1(800)931-9501

#### CJTF-HOA Family Readiness Officer, Djibouti, Africa

- Lt. Kevin S. Barnett - USN

- 24 hrs Tel: 011-973-82-9257
- e-mail: [froafrica@hoa.centcom.mil](mailto:froafrica@hoa.centcom.mil)

#### Family Readiness Officer, Camp Lejeune, NC

- Lt. J. A. Polson - USMC

- Tel: (910) 451-8735
- e-mail: [frousa1@hoa.centcom.mil](mailto:frousa1@hoa.centcom.mil)

#### Family Readiness Staff Non-Commissioned Officer, Camp Lejeune, NC

-GySgt F. V. Munoz

- Tel: (910) 451-8719
- e-mail: [frousa2@hoa.centcom.mil](mailto:frousa2@hoa.centcom.mil)

## From the Enduring Freedom Chapel

You should have seen the look on their faces. Scores of children, from six to over 16 gleefully receiving new shoes and clothes.

For orphans in a poor country, new clothes and sports equipment are a rarity.

One of the most gratifying aspects of our job here is to work with the orphanages and schools in the local villages. One day this past month our office was able to distribute a generous amount of new materials gathered by an organization affiliated with one of our service members.

We have noticed that despite differences in culture, religion, and economic status, children are still children. They love to laugh, frolic and discover new things. Having visited schools in remote villages with our J-4 job supervisors, I am reminded of schools that our great-grandparents may have attended. With little amenities, teachers use old textbooks and many of the students use slates to write their assignments. The simple but effective education is the hope of their future.

Some of our families back home have e-mailed us and wondered how they can make a difference in the lives of children here. One of the constants that we find while talking to village chiefs is that they desire school supplies for their children. Simple school supplies like pencils, erasers, rulers, glue, markers and paper.



If you have a desire to send supplies, we can distribute them to areas of greatest need and send you digital pictures of how one family or organization can make a difference. Please contact RP2 Spencer Fry [Frysw@hoa.centcom.mil](mailto:Frysw@hoa.centcom.mil) and he will give you all the details about bringing a smile to young faces.

During the month of November, Chaplain Hal Scott will head back to MCAS Miramar, San Diego, only to transfer to Newport, R.I.

RP1 John Caudle will also be heading back to Northumberland, Pennsylvania and his civilian job as a counselor at a Federal Prison. He mentioned that not much would change, though, because he will still work in a guarded compound with a bunch of folks wearing uniforms who can't leave whenever they desire.

He returns back home with joy, since he and his wife, Lori, have a new baby boy, Jacob, recently adopted from Djibouti.

Both Chaplain Scott and RP1 Caudle consider themselves blessed to have been a part of the great work that the men and women are doing here at CJTF-HOA and to have served their spiritual needs. The department welcomes Chaplain (Cmdr) Jack Lea, from Marine Forces Atlantic, Norfolk, VA, as the reporting CJTF-HOA chaplain.



## Web site helps with school, deployment issues

By Gerry J. Gilmore, American Forces Press Service



**WASHINGTON (AFP)** - A Web site created to help service members, spouses and children navigate the challenges associated with military moves and deployments is now available.

Sponsored by the Defense Department, the site offers advice and resource assistance for school transition issues, military deployments and more, said John Molino deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

DOD officials have long recognized the need to disseminate helpful information to the field "for students who transition between schools as their (military) parents are reassigned," Molino said. For years department officials have tried to provide as good information as is available to facilitate that transition, he said.

The emergence of the World Wide Web "has been an excellent opportunity for us to take advantage of that technology, provide that information and grow from there," Molina said.

The site contains school transition and deployment information targeted to the concerns of military parents, children 6 to 12 years old, teenagers, families with special-needs children, military leaders and educators, Molina said.

Parents can also access education-related

information on transferring student records, graduation requirements and more.

The site allows military children and teens to access tips and information to help them cope with family moves and military-parent deployments, adapting to new schools and making new friends.

Monitored children's and teen's "chat rooms" also are available on the site.

"(The chat rooms) will enhance the ability of children to share their own experiences, which will be most relevant in that age group," Molino said.

The war on terrorism has brought the issue of deployments to the front burner for military families, he said.

"In an age of increased deployments, it is more important to have this information on the web site," Molino said. The war has made school districts more aware of the concerns of military families.

The site's overall purpose is to help service members' children succeed within the framework of the military life-style, Molino said.

"These are not insurmountable problems," he said. "These are challenges, much like the challenges they will face for the rest of their lives."

People can visit the new site at [www.militarystudent.org](http://www.militarystudent.org).

## Application Window Opens for Scholarship Program

By Donna Miles, American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** - Nov. 4 kicks off the application period for the children of active duty, retired and Guard and Reserve members to apply for \$1,500 academic scholarships. The application window for the 2004 Scholarships for Military Children program extends through Feb. 18. Now in its fourth year, the program, operated by the Defense Commissary Agency, has awarded nearly \$2.5 million in scholarships to some 1,500 children of U.S. service members and retirees.

The goal, according to Kay Kennedy, chief of corporate communications for the Defense Commissary Agency, is to award at least one scholarship at every commissary location, depending on the number of qualified applicants and funding.

Funding comes from manufacturers and suppliers whose products are sold at military commissaries, Kennedy explained. In addition, the Fisher House Foundation is underwriting the program's administrative costs.

The general public can also contribute to the program through the Fisher House Foundation and the Armed Forces Foundation.

Air Force Maj. Gen. Michael Wiedemer, director of the Defense Commissary Agency, said he is excited about the program's growth. Last year, 550 scholarship recipients were selected from 6,500 applicants.

Among them was Matthew Clark, a junior at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., when he learned last year he had been selected to receive scholarship.

Clark wrote to officials at the Defense Commissary Agency that he sensed his father, a disabled Vietnam Veteran, felt frustration about not being able to work and provide for his family.

"I see this scholarship as an act of appreciation for what he did for our country," he wrote. "When I found out that I had won the award, I wrote him a letter of thanks. I told him that without his sacrifice, I would not have even had the opportunity to apply."

For more information about the scholarship program and application procedures, visit [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org).

### Camp Lemonier Happenings

**October 2** - Collective Soul performed a free concert for the troops aboard Camp Lemonier.

**October 13** - The troops aboard Camp Lemonier celebrated the Navy's 228th Birthday with a cake cutting ceremony and slide show presentation.

**October 31** - Camp Lemonier celebrated Halloween with a party that included a pumpkin carving contest, pie-eating contest, scream contest, scavenger hunt, Rocky Horror Picture Show and a big prize give away.

**November 2** - The base's new fitness center opened. With the new facility was the addition of new equipment.

**Continuing** - Construction continues to progress on the new base clinic which is scheduled to be done by the end of November.



# Unit Updates

## 478th Civil Affairs Battalion

### C Company, 478th Civil Affairs Battalion (SO) began the following training:

- ✓ Sgt. Bauman and Spc. Fernandez began participating in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program for tan belt October 27th.

### C Company also completed the following missions:

- ✓ MEDCAP October 14 - 16 at Hurso, Ethiopia. The C Co., 478th Bns Civic Action Team along with US Navy medical personnel were able to treat 2960 medical patients during the event.
- ✓ VETCAP October 16 - 23 at Hurso Ethiopia. The C Co., 478th Bns Civic Action Team along with four personnel from the 949th Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services) stationed in Qatar treated a total of 2965 animals.

### ----- HMH-464 Det A (Rein) "Condors and Wolverines"

#### The "Condors and Wolverines" conducted the following Flight Training:

- ✓ Helicopter Aerial Refueling with adjacent units
- ✓ Interoperability training with adjacent units
- ✓ Area familiarization for commanders completed
- ✓ Long-range supply flight to Hurso, Ethiopia

#### The "Condors and Wolverines" conducted the following Ground Training:

- ✓ Rules of Engagement briefs for all aircrew
- ✓ Specific mission, threat, and aircraft survivability equipment briefs for all pilots
- ✓ Safety, liberty, welcome aboard briefs for all hands

### Navy Expeditionary Medical Unit

#### The EMU conducted the following training:

- ✓ Information Awareness training
- ✓ 9 mm weapons training

- ✓ MOPP Gear/NBC training

#### The EMU also completed the following missions:

- ✓ MEDCAP with the 478th CA Bn. in Hurso Ethiopia
- ✓ Joint Mass Casualty Drill with the Navy FRSS (Forward Resuscitative Surgical Service), the Air Force AEROVAC team and Air Force Special Ops medics

### Task Force Rawhide

#### Task Force Rawhide conducted the following training:

- ✓ Martial Arts Training
- ✓ Two Machine Gun Courses with MWSS-273

Task Force Rawhide is in post deployment stages and are looking forward to being with their loved ones soon. We would like to join them in thanking their family and friends who have supported them and their mission for the past few months.

# Unit Updates Continued

## 463rd Engineers

**The 463rd Engineers conducted the following training:**

- ✓ Continued Mil-to-Mil training with the Djiboutian Army Engineer Company at Hol Hol Road
- ✓ Continued training with select Djiboutian civilians. Teaching carpentry, masonry skills and operation of heavy equipment
- ✓ Completed SERE training for selected individuals

**The 463rd Engineers also completed the following missions:**

- ✓ Completed the renovation of a school in Kontali, Djibouti
- ✓ Construction of a road between Djibouti City and Hol Hol, Djibouti
- ✓ Provided a security force for the well site near Ali Sabieh, Djibouti in support of the 916th Engineer Detachment
- ✓ Completed construction of pole building for liquid oxygen storage
- ✓ Constructed retaining walls and sidewalks on Camp Lemonier
- ✓ Placed gravel for courtyard at Bender Djede School
- ✓ Demolished and began construction of Camp Lemonier shoot-house
- ✓ Graded and compacted Camp Lemonier running trail

## 916th Engineer Detachment

**The 916th Engineers completed operations at Ali Sabieh Well Site 2. They had to cap the well.**

## CJTF-HOA Engineers

**The CJTF-HOA Engineers are conducting the following missions:**

- ✓ Started work on Ali Adde School
- ✓ Started work on Tadjoura Hospital
- ✓ Started work on Obock School
- ✓ Started work on Assamo Clinic
- ✓ Continued work on Ali Sabieh Hospital

## 10th Mountain Division

**C Company, 4th Battalion 31st Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division conducted the following training:**

- ✓ Numerous ranges in Djibouti/Ethiopia to include:
  - a. Known Distance Ranges
  - b. Reflexive fire ranges
- ✓ The Mortar Platoon is currently undergoing training on the mortar ballistic computer and the plotting board to further their proficiency

**Their are also conducting Mil-to-Mil training with the Ethiopian Army in Hurso Ethiopia.**

## 463rd Engineers

**The MWSS 273 conducted the following training:**

- ✓ Marine Corps Martial Arts Program

**The MWSS 273 also completed the following missions:**

- ✓ Continues to provide airfield security

## Promotions

### 478th Civil Affairs Bn.

#### From Specialist to Sergeant:

- ✓ Sgt. Morgan L. Chong
- ✓ Sgt. Anthony T. Vinas



### 10th Mountain Division

#### From 1st Lieutenant to Captain:

- ✓ Capt. Eric Adams
- ✓ Capt. Lucas Yoho



### Task Force Rawhide

#### From Private to Private First Class:

- ✓ Pfc. Justin A. Wade



#### From Private First Class to Lance Corporal:

- ✓ Lance Cpl. Matthew E. Chambliss
- ✓ Lance Cpl. Patrick M. Bacon
- ✓ Lance Cpl. Danny R. Yancy
- ✓ Lance Cpl. Matthew W. Kirby



#### From Lance Corporal to Corporal:

- ✓ Cpl. Ray Gilbert Jr.



### 463rd Engineers

#### From Specialist to Sergeant:

- ✓ Sgt. Eric B. Ritchie
- ✓ Sgt. Brian S. Gilder
- ✓ Sgt. Brent A. Waldrep



#### From Sergeant to Staff Sergeant:

- ✓ Staff Sgt. Jon D. Arnold, Jr.



### 916th Engineers

#### From Specialist to Sergeant:

- ✓ Sgt. Tyler J. Devore



### 273 MWSS

#### From Private First Class to Lance Corporal:

- ✓ Lance Cpl. Askew



## Awards and Recognition

### CJTF-HOA

CJTF-HOA had a number of noteworthy recognitions last month:

- ✓ SSgt. Shane Beckwith was selected as the SNCO of the month for October.
- ✓ Lance Cpl. Bryan A. Skelton was selected as the Communicator of the Month and Marine Corps Service Member of the Month.
- ✓ IT1 Victor Roberson Jr. was selected as the Navy Service Member of the Month.
- ✓ PO2 Barnes was awarded the Joint Commendation Medal for his service with CJTF-HOA

### 273 MWSS

273 MWSS had the following noteworthy recognition:

- ✓ Lance Cpl. Bourdon won the Platoon Marine of the Month to qualify for the Marcent Board

## New Arrivals

### CJTF-HOA

- ✓ Cpl. Michael and Heather Danner welcomed their daughter, Paige Jordan born October 22.

### 478th Civil Affairs Bn.

- ✓ Maj. Ralph and Linda Engeler welcomed their twin boys, Brey and Colton born October 9.
- ✓ Sgt. John P. Philoctete and his wife welcomed their daughter Joanne Leslie born October 16.

## Reenlistments

### CJTF-HOA

Cpl. Zachery Mays

### HMH-464

Cpl. B. J. Munoz  
Cpl. D. V. Rosser

## Welcome Aboard Camp Lemonier

### CJTF-HOA

SA Andrew A. Scott - USN

SN Andrew S. Harris - USN

PO2 Jwynza K. Jones - USN

PO1 Alfonzo K. Sample - USN

PO1 Todd D. Gibson - USN

PO1 Fidel V. Dagdag - USN

CPO Michele E. Teale - USN

CPO Bryan B. Ellis - USN

CPO Carolyn M. Mitchell - USN

CPO Jesse E. Del Rosario - USN

CMSgt. Bradley J. Fish - USAF

Lt. Jg. Marie C. Waddell - USN

Lt. John C. Bleidorn - USN

Capt. Omar A. Carcamo - USA

Lt. Cmdr. Edwin G. Whiting - USN

Lt. Cmdr. Clifford M. Wilborn - USN

Maj. Lynn M. Irwin - USAF

Maj. Yves L. Pacheco - USAF

Lt. Col. Scott A. Stefanov - USAF

Cmdr. Donald R. Bishop - USN

Capt. Jeffrey W. Paulson - USN

#### **Civilian:**

Mrs. Lange Schermerhorn

#### **Coalition:**

Christopher Darbon

### EMU

Corrections to Septembers arrivals:

HN Autumn Grabo - USN

Capt. Rafael Roure - USN

### HHM-464 Det. A (Rein) "Condors and Wolverines"

CJTF-HOA would like to take a moment to welcome the "Condors and Wolverines" aboard Camp Lemonier. It is a priveledge to serve with you in the War on Terrorism. HHM-464 is replacing HHM-461 who has continuously provided us with a strong air asset.

## Fare Thee Well

### CJTF-HOA

Lance Cpl. David A. Monroe - USMC

Lance Cpl. Richard W. Cates - USMC

Pfc. Geoffrey L. Peltier - USA

Cpl. Michael A. Danner - USMC

Cpl. Derek F. Mitchell - USMC

Cpl. Benjiman A. Lawhorn - USMC

Spc. Jennie L. Clark - USA

Spc. Jesus Sanchez - USA

Spc. Mike R. Mulvihill - USA

Spc. Joshua W. Gregory - USA

Spc. Fernando J. Ake - USA

Sgt. John W. Edwards - USMC

Sgt. Ervin L. Marlin - USA

Sgt. Eric K. Welch - USMC

Staff Sgt. Karen A. Jakubczak - USAF

PO2 Blaine Ashton - USN

Tech. Sgt. Douglas M. Miles - USAF

Staff Sgt. Lawrence P. Hoskins - USA

PO1 Wayne A. Rogers - USAF

PO1 James R. Knight - USN

Staff Sgt. Rudy Desten - USMC

Staff Sgt. Thomas F. Zaldivar - USMC

Gunnery Sgt Rebekah L. Leatherman-USMC

Gunnery Sgt. Jamal S. Baadani - USMC

CPO Daniel B. Mumbach - USN

Gunnery Sgt. Joe S. Rodriquez - USMC

Master Sgt. Robert J. Tobin - USMC

Master Sgt. Felix E. Coleman - USMC

CWO2 Jonell B. Tomlinson - USMC

1st Lt. David J. Pasquill - USMC

1st Lt. Majdi M. Elahwal

Capt. Chris E. Ieva - USMC

Capt. Patrick J. Woolsey - USA

Capt. Scott R. Wangen - USA

Capt. James S. McDermott - USMC

Lt. Dennis D. Smith - USN

Maj. Gordon S. David - USA

Lt. Cmdr. Romeo Coleman - USN

Lt. Col. Richard W. Palermo - USMC

Lt. Col. Calvin G. Kelly - USA

Lt. Col. Christopher J. Bain - USAF

Col. Edward J. Barr - USMC

Capt. John D. Dewalt - USN

Col. Roger B. Duff - USMC

#### **Civilian:**

Mr. Jason D. McMahan

Mr. Jason H. Marsh

#### **Coalition:**

Lt. Col. Philippe Blondy